

BOARD POLICY
Public Participation in Board Meetings

Descriptor Code: BCBI

The Cherokee County Board of Education welcomes comments from interested persons regarding the School Board's duties to:

1. Establish Policy with a focus on student achievement;
2. Maintain the School District's accreditation and the opportunities it allows the School District's students;
3. Set the School District's vision;
4. Approve budgets and manage the School District's finances; and,
5. Oversee the School District's implementation of School Board Policy.

Concerns regarding the School District's day-to-day operations should be resolved at the school or divisional level. Concerns not resolved at the school or divisional level should be presented to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee. The School Board, mindful of the law prohibiting its micromanaging of the School District's day-to-day operations, should not hear comments regarding those operations unless the concern was not resolved after consideration by the Superintendent.

Public Participation Session

A public participation session, not to exceed 30 minutes, will be held at each regularly-scheduled board meeting. Each individual speaker is allotted three (3) minutes for comments, but the Chair may equally vary the time allotted for individual speakers and limit the number of speakers addressing a single topic to allow the comments of as many speakers as possible during the session.

A person seeking to speak during public participation must complete a registration form. The registration form will be made available at least 30 minutes prior to the meeting and should be submitted before the meeting begins.

Rules of Conduct

1. Speakers should remember the purposes of the meeting are to transact business pertaining to the schools and review the School District's financial status.
2. The speaker will state his/her name and connection to the School District immediately after reaching the podium.
3. Disruptive comments or conduct are prohibited. The School Board will look to O.C.G.A. § 16-11-39 and other relevant laws to determine whether comments/conduct are disruptive.
4. Comments from any member of the public not recognized to speak are prohibited.
5. Remarks will end when the speaker's allotted time has ended.
6. Speakers must comply with the Family Educational Rights Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. § 1232g) and other student privacy laws.

Violation of this Policy may end the violator's participation in the meeting.

ADOPTED: August 2, 2001

REVISED: April 20, 2023

Cherokee County Board of Education